

seen such double counting since the White House wacky plan to use sampling and educated guesses for the census.

Mr. Speaker, the President's spending numbers are pure fiction. His Social Security numbers are even worse. How does one take seriously a plan that double counts to the tune of \$2.4 trillion? Even Newsweek and the Washington Post are having a good laugh about that.

Unfortunately, the retirement security of seniors should not be subject to phony numbers and accounting gimmicks that even Orange County, California could not get away with.

Let us put the trust back in the Social Security Trust Fund.

ALL AMERICANS WILL GET TO SEE THEIR STATE OR TERRITORY ON THE BACK OF A QUARTER THANKS TO THE GENTLEMAN FROM ALABAMA (MR. BACHUS)

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Delaware, the first State whose design appears on the back of a quarter. This follows a bill we passed last year allowing this privilege to every State, privileges to deficit reduction. Every State gets a turn at its own design except the District of Columbia and the four territories who were somehow left out.

We are American citizens every bit as much as the residents of the 50 States thanks to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), who has cosponsored a bill to allow the District of Columbia and the territories to be added. All American citizens will get to see their State, their territory or their District of Columbia design on the back of a quarter.

Mr. Speaker, we welcome the help of the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and ask that this bill come to the floor soon so that we can cure this oversight.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 15, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives. I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on March 15, 1999 at 4:44 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH.

CONTINUING NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106-40)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 505(c) of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985, 22 U.S.C. 2349aa-9(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 15, 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken later today.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 774) to amend the Small Business Act to change the conditions of participation and provide an authorization of appropriations for the women's business center program, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 774

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Women's Business Center Amendments Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 29(c)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A) by inserting "and" after the semicolon at the end; and

(2) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

"(B) in the third, fourth, and fifth years, 1 non-Federal dollar for each Federal dollar."

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply beginning October 1, 1998.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 29(k)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(k)(1)) is amended by striking "8,000,000" and inserting "11,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY).

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today the House considers H.R. 774, the Women's Business Center Amendments Act of 1999. As a member of the Committee on Small Business, I know how important this bill is to Members on both sides of the aisle and to some small business women throughout the Nation. The committee held a hearing in early February and thoroughly examined this program before drafting the legislation. The committee marked up H.R. 774 and unanimously passed it on February 25.

Before I take a moment to explain the bill, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the ranking member of the Committee on Small Business, my colleague from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) as well as the rest of my friends from the Democratic side of the aisle for their commitment to this issue and their help in moving this legislation forward.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, March is Women's History Month. Throughout March we honor women who have dedicated their lives to improving the position of women society, and we celebrate the achievements of women throughout history. While this month we celebrate the accomplishments of the past, today we have the opportunity to promote the success of thousands of women in the future. The ability of women-owned businesses to flourish is crucial to our Nation's economic future.

Consider some of the following statistics. Women entrepreneurs are starting two-thirds of all small businesses in this country. Women-owned businesses are growing at twice the rate of all other businesses. Women own nearly 40 percent of all businesses in the United States of America.

I have been a small business owner, and I know both the joy and heartbreak that comes from owning a business. Additionally, as chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus, I have heard much from women who want to succeed in the business world. They will do so if given a chance. Consequently, this Congress has a responsibility to do all we can to support the growing economic force of women business owners.

One way in which we can do this is to support the Women's Business Center Program at the U.S. Small Business Administration. Women's business centers play a major role in empowering women entrepreneurs with the tools necessary to succeed in business. Right